BIS laboratories not accredited

702 SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether itis a fact that Bureau of Indian Standards and none of its recognised laboratories has, till date acquired accreditation for testing and caliberation which is indispensible to measure the accuracy of the specifications of the ISI standards :

(b) whether it is also a fact that some business houses like Bajaj, Laxman, Singer, Usha Shriram, Crompton are using ISI marks their brand name while they are not manufacturers of the electrical appliances reserved for small sector :

(c) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards has permitted these business houses to use the ISI mark in open violation of the legal provisions and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether it is a fact that these business houses buy ISI marked appliances from small sector in their brand names and then re-sell them at high profits ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY) : (a) No, Sir. Periodic calibration of testing and measuring instruments is carried out by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) as required under the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976. Accreditation of BIS Laboratories is not a legal requirement. However, the Chemical and Mechanical Laboratories of BIS are already accredited under the accreditation scheme of the Deptt. of Science & of Technology. Accreditation of electrical laboratory could not come through as the accreditation scheme was kept in abeyance for sometime due to its restructuring in alignment with European Standards. The accreditation scheme has since become operational again and steps have already been initiated to seek accreditation of BIS laboratories at the earliest. All the outside laboratories which are recognized by BIS for testing work are verified for their maintaining calibrated testing and measuring instruments/equipments.

(b) and (c) Only BIS Certification Marks Licensee is permitted to apply the Standard Mark on the products conforming to the relevant Indian Standard and covered in the licence. BIS requires the licensees to put on the products Certification Marks Licence No. in association with the Standard Mark to identify the source of manufacture. The licensee on his own may enter into marketing agreement with the owner of the brand names for sale of his products.

(d) BIS does not interfere in marketing arrangements/agreements and also with the pricing of the products.

Statement regarding price rise control and availability of essential items

703. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have stated that it will find out the names of the items whose prices are increasing and take steps to contain their prices and ensure easy availability by importing those items ;